

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the original Abstract with the following:

--In an ink-jet apparatus employing an ink-jet head having a plurality of heaters corresponding to one ink ejection opening, appropriate preliminary ejection is performed per each ejection amount mode set by a heater to be used among a plurality of heaters. Depending upon a set printing mode, printing is performed in one of large, medium and small ejection amount modes. For example, after printing is performed for a predetermined amount by the small ejection amount mode, preliminary ejection during printing is performed in the medium ejection amount mode which is greater in ejection amount than the small ejection amount mode. By this, the interval between preliminary ejections during printing can be set to be longer to prevent lowering of throughput due to the preliminary ejection operations.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-8 and 14-46 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.